

Message to the Congress Transmitting Proposed Legislation on Lifelong Learning May 14, 1992

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit today for your immediate consideration and enactment the "Lifelong Learning Act of 1992." Also transmitted is a section-by-section analysis.

This legislation would provide to all Americans, including working men and women and the unemployed, access to grant and loan help throughout their lives that is not now available. This additional help would make it possible for more Americans to further their education and increase their job skills and productivity.

Enactment of this legislation would help move America forward in achieving National Education Goal Five: "Every adult American will be literate and will possess the knowledge and skills necessary to compete in a global economy and exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship."

This legislation would:

- *Extend eligibility for Pell Grants and the three Guaranteed Student Loan (GSL) programs to students studying less than half-time.* Providing grant and loan assistance to individuals taking as little as one course at a time offers American men and women the flexibility they need to improve their employment skills while recognizing their commitments to jobs and families. This program would extend loan eligibility to individuals who are enrolled in non-degree granting education and training programs and who are taking only one course at a time. These individuals have a legitimate need for skill enhancement and training that is not being met under existing loan programs. For example, a working mother in a low-wage job could receive financial assistance for courses that would qualify her for better paying, high-skilled jobs.
- *Extend new opportunities for education and training to all U.S. citizens.* Additional student loan eligibility would be available for full- or part-time students.

The Student Loan Marketing Association (Sallie Mae) would be authorized to originate up to \$25,000 in loans, in addition to current GSL loan limits, through the Lifelong Learning Line of Credit for those borrowers who want the option of repaying loans on a basis tied to their actual income. The concept of basing student loan repayment on a borrower's future earnings has long been attractive to the Administration and to many in the Congress. However, a program of this type presents unique and complex design issues that demand careful analysis and structuring. This Act would call upon Sallie Mae, a leader in student loan administration, to offer \$100 million per year in loans and to work with the Secretary of Education to devise actuarially and fiscally sound loan options that would be widely available.

- *Explore the use of high-quality education and training programs offered by non-school based providers.* The Secretaries of Education and Labor would be authorized to develop regulations under which students attending programs offered by nontraditional types of providers could be eligible for the Lifelong Learning Line of Credit. Community-based organizations, public or private agencies, and private employers are some examples of the types of providers that might participate. These providers could participate only if the high quality of the programs could be ensured and if these funds do not replace funds already being spent for this training.

I believe that all Americans should have an opportunity to pursue education and training throughout their lives. I look forward to working with the Congress on this legislation and welcome your recommendations on how this legislation can best secure this opportunity for all Americans.

I urge the Congress to give the Lifelong

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Learning Act of 1992 prompt and favorable consideration.

The White House
May 14, 1992.

GEORGE BUSH

Nomination of Donald Herman Alexander To Be United States Ambassador to The Netherlands

May 14, 1992

The President today announced his intention to nominate Donald Herman Alexander, of Missouri, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of The Netherlands. He would succeed C. Howard Williams, Jr.

Since 1987, Mr. Alexander has served as president of the private investment firm of Don H. Alexander & Associates, Inc., in Kansas City, MO. Prior to this, he served

as president of Perkins Industries, Inc., 1982–87, and as executive vice president of the Commerce Bank of Kansas City, 1966–82.

Mr. Alexander graduated from Washburn University (B.B.A., 1962). He was born July 11, 1938, in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Mr. Alexander has three children and resides in Kansas City, MO.

Remarks at the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Ceremony

May 15, 1992

Thank you, Cyndi, very much. Thank you all. Cyndi, thank you. And may I salute our Attorney General who is doing an outstanding job for law enforcement, Bill Barr; the Members of Congress who are with us today; Adolph South; an old friend, Dewey Stokes; John Walsh; Suzie Sawyer; Barbara Dodge; Dave Derevere.

Ten years ago the FOP auxiliary began this nationally recognized service for law enforcement officers who gave their lives in the line of duty, and I salute you from the bottom of my heart. It is an honor to be with all of you to mark a day that celebrates America's finest.

Police work has been described as a thankless job. Well, I am here to say thank you on behalf of each American. We need you. We depend on you, and we cannot do without you. Yours is the priceless task of upholding good against evil. All of us saw sickening sights in Los Angeles of criminals breaking windows and burning buildings and looting businesses. But even worse was the looting of something harder to replace than merchandise, the stealing

of something precious, stealing hope, promise, the future. This we cannot allow.

You know better than anyone, it is not just a privilege to support our law enforcement officers. Standing in Mount Zion Church right in the heart of south central L.A. just a few days ago, I spoke out there in support of law enforcement, and the place erupted into spontaneous applause. The people were applauding, those most severely affected—but those were the ones that were doing this—were most severely affected by the rioting and by the looting, and they were supporting the police officers. And that's the way it should be.

So, today I pledge this to you, to that thin blue line that separates good people from the worst instincts of our society, I pledge my continuing and full support. We must show less compassion for the criminal and more for the victims of crime. That is why we reauthorized the 1984 Victims of Crime Act and boosted its annual crime victims compensation assistance fund to \$150 million. These dollars did not come from the